

Student Senate Votes Indefinite Strike

Referendum

I am for the continuance of the Student Strike until Friday.	2450
I am for resuming classes Tomorrow	1360
	3810

The URI Student Senate voted last night to extend the student strike indefinitely only a few hours after the URI student body voted in favor of continuing the strike through Friday.

The vote taken by the Senate was 15 to 12 in favor of the indefinite strike. The bill read in part that there be an all university strike to shut down the University of Rhode Island in opposition to President Nixon's actions in Southeast Asia.

Rhode Island College took similar action last night when their Student Senate also voted to strike indefinitely.

Tony Robinson, newly elected student body president said in a statement to the BEACON "I urge the entire University of Rhode Island community and all Americans to go on strike to stop the war in Southeast Asia."

A minute of silence was held at the beginning of the meeting in memory of those students who were killed Monday at Kent State University.

A resolution initiated by UMass calling for the complete shutdown of Wall Street on



About 250 students await Student Senate strike vote.

May 11 in an attempt to stop all business was also passed at the meeting. Senator Ira Rosenberg, speaking on this resolution, said this will have everyone stop working except President Nixon.

According to the College Press Service in Washington the URI Student Senate was one of the first student governing bodies in the country to sanction an indefinite student strike.

Student Group Organized Opposing Indefinite Strike

A spontaneous group of about 100 students calling themselves "Students Opposed to Shutdown" (SOS) gathered to protest the closing down of URI indefinitely last night following the Student Senate's passage of a bill to strike indefinitely which was passed by a 15 to 12 vote.

Evans Ralston, a spokesman for the group, said because of the closeness of the vote they felt obligated "to represent those students on campus who want to do what they came here for, that is, go to classes."

He added, "We in no way are supporting in total the policies of the United States government in Southeast Asia as voiced by the President of the United States."

He said that the group would try to bring it to the attention of the Faculty Senate, administration and the people of R.I. that there are students desirous of achieving the goals of higher education.

Michael Moskwa, coordinator for the group, said that his group is "not opposed to the strike as long as students of this university are given a choice and that 'we want to show that there is at least an equal number of students opposed to a total shutdown.'"

At the emergency organizational meeting held last night, the members decided to visit the various housing units, fraternities and sororities to ask students to support the movement.

S. K. H. S. Picketing Draws 25, URI Student Arrested

About 125 student strikers gathered outside of South Kingstown High School yesterday to entreat students to leave school and join the strike protesting President Nixon's action in Cambodia.

High school students, apparently having been intimidated by school officials, were reluctant to leave the building. Doors were blocked from the inside by faculty.

Mr. Gilbert Hall, principal of the high school, told the BEACON that students leaving the building would be dealt with "in the customary manner," which he described as five days of suspension and five days of detention. An estimated 20 to 25 students left the school to join the demonstration.

The only incident involved a truck equipped with loudspeakers that the strikers used to speak to the students still inside. Police told the demonstrators to get a permit from the Town Council before using the equipment.

Driver of the sound truck Steve Morocco was arrested when he failed to follow a police car to the station. Morocco was charged with disobeying an officer and was detained for two hours. He was released with the aid of Bernard Segal, URI psychology professor, and ordered to appear in court later this month. The truck was

impounded by police until the end of the demonstration.

A compromise reached among the demonstrators, police, and the school principal allowed five URI students and five striking high school students to pass out fliers at the close of school. The literature encouraged high school students to attend a rally at URI later that afternoon.

Letter-Writing Campaign Begun By Students

More than 5,000 letters have been mailed as of last night to Senators Pell and Pastore and Congressmen Tiernan and St. Germaine protesting the Cambodia invasion. The letter-writing campaign, begun by Fran LaVecchio, will continue in the Union lobby today. Miss LaVecchio intends to deliver 6000 letters to be signed by sailors at Quonset Point today as well.

Fund-Raising

WRIU has started a fund-raising campaign to help replace the plate glass windows broken at the Bookstore last night.

Baum OK's Flag Lowering To Mourn Student Deaths

In a memorial service held on the quadrangle for the four Kent State students killed last Monday, President Baum in a statement yesterday gave his permission for the flag to be lowered to half-mast as a sign of mourning. In a prepared statement he said:

"Our Student Senate, the elected representatives of about 7000 undergraduates, has asked for a visible symbol of mourning for the many thousands who have been killed in Southeast Asia and for their four fellow students who have lost their lives at Kent State University. Specifically, they have asked that our official flags be lowered to half mast."

I have met with the Student Senate. I am convinced that their motivation is sorrow for the loss of human life. In no sense do they wish to show disrespect either for the United States as an institution or for its flag.

I have checked with responsible state and federal officials and find that the Student Senate request is not contrary to law. Out of respect for the conviction of our Senate, I am honoring the request and I am lowering the flag to half mast through Memorial Day.

The people of Rhode Island should be proud of their sons and daughters at URI. The vast

majority of them are sensitive young people, deeply affected by the lack of concern for the value of human life which characterizes much of the world today. We need look only to Ohio, Maryland, or Pennsylvania, to name only three states, to see how fortunate we are. Many of our students have labored hard to

maintain non-violence during this difficult period.

I trust the people of Rhode Island will honor and respect the integrity of our students, of their children, of the young men and women who want to see a better world than we inherited from our parents or than we shall pass on to our children."

Bookstore Windows Broken No Suspects Being Held

Two windows in the University Bookstore were broken at about 8:50 last night, by what appears to have been some type of explosive pasted to each of the windows. No one was hurt by the explosions that blew a six-inch hole in each pane. Damage was approximated at \$500.

South Kingstown and Campus police said that they are not holding anyone in connection with the incident. One co-ed who was walking along Lower College Road about the time the explosions occurred, said that she saw a young man about five-feet, ten inches tall, clean cut with short, dark hair, gluing something on the windows. She said she thought nothing of it, because it appeared as if he was putting up a poster. She added that she could not

positively identify him.

Police said that the device used was something about the size of a "cherry bomb." The small explosions happened one after the other, with the second occurring about 1-2 minutes after the first. Police believe that it probably took about a minute to place the devices on the windows.

Members of the strike committee, who were summoned from the rally in Edwards, said that this type of action was "stupid and completely opposite to what we want."

Several observers said that, even though there is no clue to the identity of the person responsible, they blamed a "right wing" representative who is trying to discredit the strike movement.

Police are continuing an investigation.